

Mr. U. L. RAMACHANDRA RAO.—Am I to take it then that all the revenue derived by the department in the shape of re-connection fees are being utilized for paying the establishment meant for this work and that there is no surplus under this head?

Mr. N. N. AYYANGAR.—The question of reducing the re-connection charges will be considered, if possible.

Grant of Responsible Government to Mysore.

Q.—20. Mr. B. SRINIVASA RAO, Bowringpet Taluk.—

Will the Government be pleased to state:—

on how many occasions the question regarding the grant of Responsible Government to the people of Mysore State was discussed, both in the Representative Assembly and the Legislative Council, since the year 1923?

A.—The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, GENERAL DEPARTMENT (Mr. C. Subrahmanya Aiyar).—

This was not discussed on any occasion.

Railway Cess Collections in the Tumkur District.

Q.—22. Messrs. BALE GOWDA and REVANNA GOWDA, Kunigal Taluk.—

Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the total sum of railway cess collected in the Tumkur District and under deposit till now;

(b) the amount of interest realized thereon each year;

(c) whether they are aware of the fact that a portion of this interest is being utilized for the formation of only new road works;

(d) whether it has been brought to their notice that the raiyats are hard hit in these days of economic depression by the collection of this tax?

A.—The SECRETARY to GOVERNMENT, LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT (Mr. P. H. Krishna Rao).—

(a) Rs. 11,28,856 on 1st July 1937.

(b) Rs. 53,080.

(c) Yes.

(d) No.

Mr. BALE GOWDA.—Are the Government aware that some important roads have been constructed with the help of the railway cess collections in the Tumkur District? If so, will there be any objection to giving sufficient grants for maintaining those roads from the interest amount on the railway cess collections?

Mr. P. H. KRISHNA RAO.—That question is already engaging the attention of Government.

Mr. G. SHANKARA SETTY.—In the case of necessary works, why not the Government empower the district boards themselves to utilize some of the cess income on their own initiative?

Mr. P. H. KRISHNA RAO.—That question is under consideration.

Mr. G. SHANKARA SETTY.—Many of the district boards will be unable to maintain the roads if they are not permitted to utilize the interest on railway cess income for that purpose. Are not the Government aware of it?

Mr. P. H. KRISHNA RAO.—Yes, and that is why a special committee has been appointed to suggest ways and means for augmenting the resources of the local bodies. Their recommendations are awaited by Government.

Mr. G. SHANKARA SETTY.—Why not the Government take over the management of all important roads in the State and see that they are maintained properly?

Mr. P. H. KRISHNA RAO.—That question is also under the consideration of the special committee.

Mr. KRISHNA RAO GANESHA RAO GURUJAR.—In all the districts, Government are still levying the railway cess. Does it mean that the Government are still thinking of further railway developments in all those places?

Mr. P. H. KRISHNA RAO.—It is not true either that the cess is being levied in all the districts or that the question of railway expansion in each district is under consideration.

Mr. KRISHNA RAO GANESHA RAO GURUJAR.—Speaking of the Kadur District, may I know if the Government are contemplating any railway expansion?